GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1406
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014
INCLUSION IN SC CATEGORY
Ghubaya Shri Sher Singh

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rai Sikhs community is recognised as Scheduled Caste in the State of Punjab;

(b) whether the Government has received any proposal recently from the State Governments of Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand for inclusion of Rai Sikhs community as Scheduled Caste in these States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the said proposals are likely to be cleared by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

(a) In the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, as amended from time to time, 'Rai Sikh' caste is already specified as a Scheduled Caste at Sr. No. 39, in relation to the State of Punjab.

(b) & (c) Proposal for inclusion of 'Rai Sikh' caste in the list of Scheduled Castes (SCs) has been received from the Governments of Haryana and Uttarakhand. Likewise Government of NCT of Delhi has recommended inclusion of Rai Sikh (Mahatmas), in the list of SCs in relation to Delhi. No proposal has, however, been received from Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, to include 'Rai Sikh' in the list of SCs in relation to these States.

(d) As any amendment in the list of SCs can be done only by an Act of Parliament in view of clause (2) of the Article 341 of the Constitution of India, no time frame can be assigned in the matter.